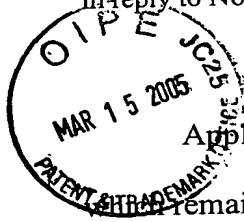


Application No. 10/029,868  
In reply to Notice of Allowance dated January 12, 2005



REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of Claims 20, 21, and 23-38, which remain active in this application. The present amendment amends Claims 17 and 18.

The present amendment corrects an informality uncovered in the Specification during a post allowance review of the present application. No new matter is added, and no new search is required. The Amendment is believed to be clearly directed to only matters of form and should, accordingly be entered.

In addition, it is respectfully requested that the references submitted in the Information Disclosure Statements filed March 24, 2004 and April 29, 2003 be considered on the record, and that the Examiner send the undersigned a checked off PTO-1449 form to that effect. As a courtesy, submitted herewith are copies of the Information Disclosure Statements, and copies of the date-stamped filing receipts indicating filing of these Information Disclosure Statements on March 24, 2004 and April 29, 2003.

Accordingly, entry of this amendment prior to issuance is respectfully requested

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)

Bradley D. Lytle  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 40,073

Michael E. Monaco  
Registration No. 52,041

**COPY**